

Commercial Advertiser

WALTER G. SMITH - EDITOR.

THURSDAY : : : : JULY 18

When Australia was federated the success of the plan to lay a Pacific cable, to connect the uttermost parts of the empire, became assured. Australia had long wanted the cable but could not act as a unit. Now the legislative processes are simplified and, with Great Britain urging the cable project because of its imperial utility, the chances of an early telegraphic connection between Canada and the antipodean continent have passed beyond the pale of theory.

The latest census statistics show that France, in five years, has only gained 330,000 population. The greater part of this meager showing is due to the growth of Paris, which city has gained, in the main, by foreign immigration. The rest of France, where the increase is natural, shows an augmented population of only 38,000, or about the census showing of Honolulu. These are sore straits for France to be in, more so because of the increasing burden of debt. It is beginning to appear that all Latin Europe is passing into the category of decaying nations. Spain's case is hopeless; Italy showed lamentable weakness in Abyssinia; Portugal is a mere name and France is in imminent danger of becoming a second-class power.

A CARNEGIE LIBRARY.

In company with perhaps every other city of the United States, Honolulu stands ready to receive a benefaction from the greatest living giver of libraries, Andrew Carnegie, and the proper authorities have signified a willingness to accept. There was no suggestion of begging in the letter which went forward to the philanthropist, but he was shown where the investment of a few of his thousands would bring returns in the shape of good to the people of this country. Though a new Territory Hawaii is as intensely American as any other part of the nation, and when it comes to shouting for the Old Flag and an Appropriation, the Delegate of the Territory will be found in the front rank, with the Congressmen from New York and Massachusetts and Ohio and California.

But there is a field here for such beneficence which is peculiar. In a new country where the elements which lead to the broadening of the minds of the men who work are absent, where there is no free interchange through conventions of tradesmen, of the best opinion, founded on new experiences, there must be reliance upon book lore. The education of a people may be accomplished more through wide reading, even if there is often much to be desired in the matter of the books which are chosen as the media, than through any amount of teaching. Taking the young of the Hawaiian race, the men and women of the future, they may be fitted for the duties and responsibilities more completely by the presence at their hands of a good library which was free to them, than by any purely school education they may receive.

This should appeal to Mr. Carnegie, for he is at the bottom a most practical man. The value of good books is shown in his case. Had the Andrew Carnegie who carried telegraph messages through the streets of Pittsburgh many years ago devoted his time, as do many boys of today, to the dime novels and yellow-back horrors which are in demand, he would have been at most a telegraph operator without a future now. But he was of better stuff and made the most of opportunities which were limited. To make the task easier for the men who must dig for their knowledge is the aim of his later years. Should it be given to the city to receive a gift of a library from him, it could be taken without any thought of a gratuity, but rather as the offering of a successful man to those whom he would see win as much of the good things of life as have been given to him.

NEARING ITS END.

The loss of thousands of dollars in the attempt to establish a daily morning paper here with a policy opposed to the material and political interests and the common sense of the white population of Hawaii, was to have been expected. The doom of the new journal was sealed the moment it showed the cloven hoof of its politics. If there was any room for it at all, it was as an aid to good government, but as soon as it was found to be the organ of all the hates and envies of a disreputable agitator, a paper opposed to the business welfare of Honolulu, to the labor system of the Islands, to the recognition even as honest men of the Americans who bore the burden of the annexation fight, its chance of permanency vanished. As if to dig its own grave both wide and deep, the paper supported the preposterous Home Rule party and alienated even the men who, in a mistaken view of Republicanism, early in the game, had subscribed largely to its stock.

Since the real motives of the misnamed Republican came to be understood, the paper has been kept going by main strength. Enormous deficits have been made up month by month by its controlling owner, the draft sometimes being four times the sum of his monthly pay as a Circuit Judge. A well-known woman capitalist was inveigled into the deal to the extent of something over three hundred shares, and the money she paid is supposed to have gone down a rat hole with the rest. Last month the office went \$700 behind; this month the deficit may reach \$1,000. A pitiable effort is being made to reduce the probabilities by offering advertising space for anything a humane person will give—small favors of one dollar being thankfully received. There is no longer a pretence of keeping up rates. With cap in hand, like a beggar at the gate, Humphreys' dying organ stands supplicating for the pence of charity and the nickels of the credulous.

How long the harrowing spectacle will last depends on the ability of the man most at interest to pay the difference between expenses and income. The public will not help him out; the stockholders prefer a receiver to assessments; and with the end of the Legislature there is no further chance to make corrupt printing deals. Beyond is the grave, the worms and the epitaph.

FINANCES OF THE COUNTRY.

There is much that is gratifying in the condition of the national banks of the country. Six months of a year, which has been marked by the extreme of speculation, have passed and only seven banks have failed, and of these there will be few which will not be able to resume business. True, this number is greater than the total of banks which went under in 1900, but changing conditions are to blame. The speculations which caused the failures are not part of the legitimate business of the country, and the shaking out of the institutions which have been engaged in backing such plans is for the good of the financial world and a sign of promise for the future.

The Comptroller of the Currency has given out an interview in which he lays stress upon the fact that the national banks throughout the country are in a most prosperous condition. The resources of the banks are greater and the prosperity of the institutions more notable than ever before in the history of the system. The condition of the banks of the country serves as a financial barometer, and just now there are no signs of an approaching storm. The cash on hand is increasing, the loans are satisfactory, and this means that every branch of business is not booming but forging ahead on safe and sure lines toward a prosperity which will eclipse anything in the past history of the country.

There is little ground upon which to build a belief that there will follow the depression which comes usually once in each decade to the business interests. The crops of the West are more than fair, reports showing that the yield will be above the average. The demand from abroad is greater than ever, and there is no reason to expect a decrease. India will have a short wheat crop for export and the presence of the armies in China will preclude any large European exports from Russia. The farmers have received more than \$25,000,000 for their surplus farm animals, mules and horses having been gathered for use in South Africa and China to that valuation. Prices have increased twenty-five per cent, and with this condition there has been larger buying than ever before. Hawaii should benefit by this. Money which earns only two and three per cent in the States of the Middle West, that territory where a few years ago mortgages were the rule, will find its way here and once investments of this kind start there will be many of them.

SOME HISTORIC FAILURES.

The theory that a Government ought to "do right" as other people understand the right and ignore so base a thing as common sense and political expediency, has wrought many signal and melancholy failures in the history of the world. Long ago the governments of Southern Europe were instructed by the church to which they held allegiance to treat as enemies of the State, worthy of the fagot and the chain, those who did not accept a peculiar and unscientific interpretation of God's word. It was held by the church that the earth was flat; that what is now called the Old World was the only world; that astronomy was heresy and that the idea of the earth being more than plus five thousand years of age was a device of a personal devil to lead the Christian astray; and that, on the theory that a Government should always "do right"—as other people interpreted the right—men who questioned these dicta were to be slain upon instruments of torture. The annals of the world are indelibly stained and blackened by the story of those times.

At a much later period the world had a new conception of right to deal with in its politics. The scene shifted from southern Europe to northern Europe—from Spain and Italy to England. There a Government to "do right" must stop all amusements, must ordain the sober garment and the lugubrious visage, must compel the singing of psalms in a nasal monotone and must regulate eating, courtship, recreation and even art. The Government did as it was bidden and England almost went mad. For years and decades the sad experiment was carried on until the patience of men could stand it no longer; and, as a correspondent said in a recent Advertiser, the "swing back carried England into profrugacy." A small colony of pinched fanatics took the dark Cromwellian creed across the sea to New England, where the local government had to "do right" by burning old women as witches and slitting the ears of Quakers. The "right" of the matter was so clear in that day that ministers, after proving it by the Bible, felt no compunctions against barbarism and outlawry. We read that part of New England's history with shame; yet the men who made it were as sincere as any who have come after them with schemes to invade personal liberty with edicts of Church and State.

Men now living can remember the strident call of the Abolitionists, when the loyalty of the border States of the Union was trembling in the balance, to "do right," and strike down slavery at once. Abraham Lincoln knew that God did not always move in the thunder and the storm but was heard in the still, small voice. He tried to deal gently with the crisis, and for it Wendell Phillips proclaimed him the "Slavehound of Illinois," and Wm. Lloyd Garrison said that he and the Republican party were in a "covenant with death and a league with hell." Abraham Lincoln, vastly greater than they, held his peace. He refused to enrage the border States; he declined to lose the support of that great faction of his own party which did not care to shed blood for "niggers;" and for two years after war began he held the abolitionists at bay waiting for the time of emancipation to grow ripe. Finally it came on the bough of expediency. Lincoln freed the slaves as a war measure; did it lawfully; did it irrevocably; and did it despite the hate and rage and calumnious misrepresentation of the Abolition party.

Americans and Christians now hear again the old familiar call to "do right"—to abolish the trade in alcoholic and malt stimulants by an edict of the State. The call is fanatical in its tone and its iteration and because of that but 250,000 out of the millions of temperate men or total abstainers in the Union, are willing to respond to it with their votes. Against this beggarly total are the millions who have signed the Francis Murphy pledge believing that the way to close the saloons is to persuade the people not to enter them—that it is not to affront their sense of manly independence by telling them they shall not enter. In that view most Honolulu Christians seem to concur and as a result of it the Murphy movement is the only temperance crusade inaugu-

rated here in the past twelve months or twelve years that has reduced the liquor revenues of the city by a nickel. We have had declaiming women in the pulpit; we have had Chapman and Giel and are having Woolley, the leader of them all. But what have the net results been? Surely not fewer saloons. But, thank God, owing to Francis Murphy and his kind we are lately getting fewer drinkers; and if their work can be expanded there will be fewer and fewer drinking places. The only thing which stands in the way is the kind of persecution which attacks the natural rights of men to eat and drink and sell and buy, and thus repeats the errors and invites the fate of the iron Cromwellian law. Better persuasion than force when a man is asked to change his individual preferences for food or stimulant.

But for their Royalist allies the professional Americans here who say that the old Annexation party is alien to the flag could not carry a precinct in any Honolulu ward. Just how sincere their Hawaiian reinforcement is may be judged by this paragraph from the senior Home Rule organ, the Independent: "It is very characteristic that the tableaux in which American admirals, generals and presidents are represented, receive the frosty stare of the large audiences which have attended the performances of the World's Entertainers. Every theatrical manager should bear in mind that spread eagles, American heroism and blather-skilling will never become popular in Honolulu. The people of this country have no aloha for Dewey, McKinley and the rest of that gang."

A short time ago the same paper remarked that Hawaiians strongly sympathized with Spain in her war with the United States. We might add that their leader, Wilcox, who parrots the "anti-American" cry of the carpet-baggers, is the man who offered his "sword" to Aguinaldo.

Russia has announced that, on the completion of the Siberian railroad, fares will be cut in two between London and Oriental ports. The time between London and Japan will be reduced to sixteen days. There seems to be no abatement of the Russian purpose to put on a steamship line between Siberia and the United States, two fine vessels, the Mongolia and Manchuria, having been built at Trieste.

THE RESEMBLANCE.

"Excuse me," said the new neighbor, as he leaned over the fence, "you have a daughter who plays the piano, I believe."

"I have," said the man on the porch. "Well," said the other, "I have been a great student of nature in my time. I have spent many years on a farm—and I want to say that your daughter's music reminds me of the music of a brook."

"Ah," said the pleased father, "I confess that there is an undefinable, murmuring sweetness running through her music that resembles a brook, now that you have called my attention to it."

"Yes," agreed the new neighbor, "there is all that. And besides, there is another way in which the resemblance is very marked. Probably you have read that line that calls attention to the fact that the brook goes on forever."

And with a cold stare he walked slowly back to his porch and picked up his newspaper.—Indianapolis Sun.

THE MONOPOLIST.

Perchance he'll own this world so fine. Then will it come to pass That all the rest shall meet a sign Which reads: "Keep off the grass?"

NOTICE.

THE REGULAR BIENNIAL MEETING of the Queen's Hospital corporation will be held at the office of F. A. Schaefer & Co., on Friday, the 19th of July, at 10 a. m.

GEO. W. SMITH, Secretary.

On the adjournment of the above meeting the regular quarterly meeting of the trustees of the Queen's Hospital will be held at the same place.

GEO. W. SMITH, Secretary.

5912
OLIVE BRANCH LODGE NO. 2,
I. O. O. F.

ALL MEMBERS ARE HEREBY notified that a meeting of the above lodge will be held this (Thursday) evening, at 7:30 o'clock.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS AND SOCIAL.

Members of Harmony and Excelsior lodges and all visiting sisters and brothers are cordially invited. Social at 9 p. m.

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE.

Attention, Co. H.

MEMBERS OF COMPANY H, N. G. H., are hereby ordered to attend inspection and muster on Friday evening, July 19, 1901, at 7:30 o'clock, at the Drillshed. Every member must be on hand.

Uniform—Fatigue: Cap, blouse, white trousers and leggings.

All company property which may now be in possession of members must be accounted for.

By order of T. B. MURRAY,
Captain Commanding Company H,
First Regiment, N. G. H. 5912

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NOTICE

MRS. A. M. MELLIS HAS REMOVED her Dressmaking establishment from her residence, on Beretania street, to her former place of business on Fort street, above the store of N. S. Sachs Dry Goods Co., Ltd., where she will be pleased to see her patrons. All orders promptly attended to. Orders for accordeon pleating taken at this establishment.

MRS. A. M. MELLIS.

FRATERNAL ORDER EAGLES

ALL EAGLES ARE REQUESTED to meet at Progress Hall, Sunday, July 21st, at 10 a. m. Important business.

T. A. SIMPSON,
5912 Secretary.

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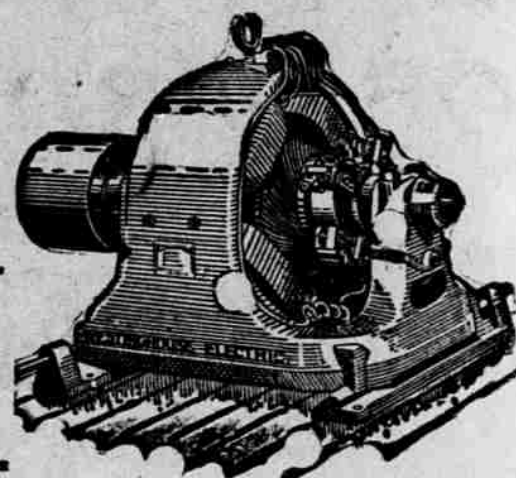
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